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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Y. NAGAI et al.
Serial No.: 09/712,970
Filed: November 16, 2000
For: REPRODUCTION APPARATUS AND REPRODUCTION
METHOD OF DIGITAL VIDEO SIGNAL OR AUDIO
SIGNAL
Art Unit: 3625
Examiner: N. Rosen

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 18, 2003

Sir:

The non-final Office Action dated December 18, 2002, in connection with the above-identified application is acknowledged. A response to the Office Action of December 18, 2002, is being submitted herewith.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) and 1.98, attached hereto are two forms PTO-1449 listing twenty-one of the twenty-three references which have been cited in prior application Serial No. 09/290,251 filed on April 13, 1999, the parent application of the present continuation application, between the filing date of November 16, 2000, of the present application and the filing date of March 18, 2003, of this Information Disclosure Statement.

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Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98(d), copies of these twenty-one references are not being provided with this Information Disclosure Statement because the references were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the prior application identified above and the prior application is being relied upon in the present application for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120 as required by 37 CFR 1.98(d)(1), and the references which were submitted to the Office in the prior application were submitted in compliance with the version of 37 CFR 1.98(a)-(c) in effect as of the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement as required by 37 CFR 1.98(d)(2).

The other two references which have been cited in the prior application identified above between the filing date of November 16, 2000, of the present application and the filing date of March 18, 2003, of this Information Disclosure Statement are U.S. Patent Nos. 5,659,613 and 6,209,092. However, these two references are not being cited in this Information Disclosure Statement because they were cited by the Examiner on the form PTO-892 which was attached to the Office Action of December 18, 2002.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)(2), submitted herewith is a credit card payment form in payment of the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.37136CX1).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466

MK
(703) 312-6600

Attachments